Claim 27, lines 1 and 2, change "one of the preceding claims 15 to 26" to --claim 15--.

Claim 28, line 1 and 2, change "one of the preceding claims 11 to 27" to --claim 11--.

Claim 29, lines 1 and 2, change "one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 30, lines 1 and 2, change "one of the claims 11 to 29" to --claim 11.

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested. This amendment is being made solely to reduce the number of claims for which a filing fee must be paid, and is not being made with respect to any issue affecting or related to the patentability of the original claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan J. Kasper

Registration No. 25,426

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037-3213 Telephone: (202) 293-7060

Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: January 2, 2001